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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 659
By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ms. Katy Gore.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a deep sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of Tennessee learned of the death of Ms. Katy Gore; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gore was a distinguished and prominent citizen of the state of Tennessee who was wholly dedicated to improving the quality of life for the people of this state and this nation; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gore was a highly respected member and a voice of integrity in the Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, Katy Gore was an exemplary public servant who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Middle Tennessee, Ms. Gore was the quintessential "pillar of the community"; her open heart, indomitable spirit, and stalwart determination endeared her to many Tennesseans; and

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WHEREAS, born on November 28, 1921, Katy Gore was the daughter of Jay C. Gore and Blanche Boze DeLaney Gore and the second cousin of the late Senator Albert Gore, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gore attended Cumberland University and State Teachers College at Murfreesboro, now MTSU, as an English and dramatic arts major before working for the Veterans Administration's regional office for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gore also rendered noteworthy service at the Tennessee Department of Employment Security for 14 years; and

WHEREAS, after she retired, Katy Gore worked with her mother and nephew in the nursing home business in Nashville; the family business eventually expanded to operating five different houses for the sick and elderly; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gore also served with compassion and probity on the Metro Action Commission, Nashville's anti-poverty agency in the 1960s, in addition to rendering admirable service as the Chief Engrossing Clerk of the Tennessee House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Katy Gore was a sterling individual who gave unreservedly of herself, her time, and her talents to perpetuate the greater public good for the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a great admirer of former Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman, Ms. Gore was an active and instrumental force in the Democratic Party in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, she was one of the matriarchs of the women's movement in Democratic Party politics in Tennessee, recruiting and mentoring many young women in the Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, an enlightened woman, Ms. Gore helped to racially integrate the Democratic Party in the 1950s, working with civil rights pioneers such as Maude Lynch, Charlotte Branstetter and Joey Ellis to involve African American women in the party; and

WHEREAS, Katy Gore cites her second cousin and the father of Vice-President Al Gore Jr., the late Albert Gore Sr., as the catalyst for sparking her life-long interest in politics; and

WHEREAS, truly a staple of the Tennessee Democratic Party, Ms. Gore fought hard for her political party and her beliefs in any way she could; she performed all of her tasks with confidence, zest, and vigor; and

WHEREAS, Katy Gore selflessly donated her time to furthering her party's cause as a campaign volunteer, convention delegate, and diligent voter; she did not miss voting in a single election for almost 60 years; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Ms. Gore was most proud of her sterling contributions to encouraging and enhancing female participation in politics; and

WHEREAS, loving the Lord and endeavoring to lead an exemplary Christian life, Katy Gore was a member of Christ Church Cathedral for over 50 years; and

WHEREAS, the celebrated legacy Katy Gore leaves behind will be fondly remembered and greatly treasured by her loyal friends and colleagues for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gore is survived by her niece, Susan Casey of Houston, and her nephew, Stephen W. Marsh of Mt. Juliet; and

WHEREAS, it is rare when a person of Katy Gore's stature walks among us; her brilliance was quite evident as she worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for the good people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Katy Gore leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to the bountiful life of this extraordinary public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Ms. Katy Gore, remembering with admiration her exemplary character and praiseworthy accomplishments in political life and public service, while

reflecting upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy and extend our sincere condolences to our trusted colleague, Vice-President Al Gore, the entire Gore family, and to all those friends and admirers who will sorely miss Ms. Gore.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.